

mind. In an interview in late April Dahrendorf said the Community has reached "an impasse in its calendar for progress." For a decade before 1972 "people had a notion [that the Community would] proceed from the customs plan through economic and monetary union to something described as political union, a royal way planned in stages," said Dahrendorf.

"When I said impasse, I meant the end of a chapter, a chapter in which a calendar devised by Community institutions was imposed on reality. Well, reality has caught up with us. Reality has told us we are not where we planned to be."

The way to European union, says Dahrendorf, is not by devising a comprehensive calendar, a royal way. Rather he says he is in favor of the Maoist line of "letting a hundred flowers bloom."

"What we have to do, in fact, is to solve a large number of specific problems, build up the materials for European union." He believes that the area he is responsible for is peculiarly suited to this pursuit; it provides "varied leads to real results." And with touches of both the self-confidence and self-inclusive irony that are characteristic of him, he says, "I have constructed for myself a portfolio necessary in the Community."

Dahrendorf, who is in his middle 40's, might himself be described as a European of the second generation with experience and expectations quite different from those of many of his older colleagues in the commission and in the higher reaches of the Community apparatus. For example, Altiero Spinelli, of Italy, who, before expansion of the commission, was the commissioner responsible for many of the programs and policies now in Dahrendorf's province, is a strong advocate of political integration under a federal system. Spinelli spent 16 years in detention in fascist Italy, 10 of them actually in prison after, as a student, he was first arrested for political activity in 1927. He became identified with the European federalist movement almost immediately after he was freed in 1943, and he pursued that interest in parallel with academic and literary and political activity in postwar Italy. He joined the commission in 1970 as commissioner responsible for science, technology, and industry and, since the expansion of the commission, has been responsible for industry and technology. He remains a powerful advocate of common policies in the fields he oversees, re-



Ralf Dahrendorf

garding them as prerequisites and aids to political unification. The Council of Ministers, which decides on policy proposals made by the commission, largely rejected Spinelli's ideas in this area, although, ironically, many of the proposals included in the science policy

program, finally accepted this year, originated with Spinelli.

Dahrendorf, in fact, took over at a time when conditions were favorable for progress in his new province. Euratom had become such an embarrassment to the Community that definitive action was necessary. Euratom was the product of one of the three treaties creating the three original European "communities"—the coal and steel community, the economic community, and the atomic energy community. Although Euratom was launched enthusiastically as a showpiece of European scientific cooperation and a sound joint investment in bringing the benefits of nonmilitary nuclear energy to Europe, the brave beginning proved a false start. Conflicts of national industrial interest among the major member countries were the root of the trouble. By the middle 1960's the agency was in deep difficulty with criticism of the quality of work being done and resistance to paying the costs of the agency both increasing. In recent years there have been proposals to dismantle the research arm of Euratom altogether (Euratom functions as a nuclear materials supply agency, as well) or to convert the Euratom labs to research on other subjects, such as the environment.

Pentagon Admits to Weather War

The Department of Defense (DOD) has finally admitted to having seeded clouds over Laos, North Vietnam, and South Vietnam during the Vietnam war, according to the transcript of a Senate briefing released on 19 May. At a 20 March briefing, high military officials told members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee the full details of the classified weather modification program which was conducted by the U.S. Air Force in Southeast Asia from 1966 until 1972 (*Science*, 5 April 1974). The briefing constituted the first admission by the military that such a program indeed took place. The DOD officials gave out figures on the number of cloud-seeding sorties and their locations, the number of inches of rainfall claimed to have been induced by the seeding, and a list of officials in the DOD chain of command and in civilian agencies who knew about the top-secret program. The military officers at the briefing maintained that the program had succeeded in reducing North Vietnamese infiltration down the Ho Chi Minh Trail, particularly in June 1971—but denied prior allegations that their cloud-seeding operations in any way caused the heavy flooding which devastated parts of North Vietnam in the fall of 1971.

The use of weather modification as a weapon in Vietnam is an unprecedented military application of this civilian technology. Significant portions of the text of the briefing will appear in *Science* next week.

—D.S.